

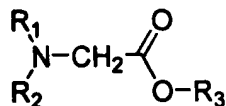
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent and pore-shrinking agent comprising at least one or two or more compounds selected from a group consisting of glycine derivatives, aminodicarbonic acid derivatives, acylaminodicarbonic acid derivatives, pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid derivatives, piperidinecarboxylic acid derivatives, hexamethyleneiminecarboxylic acid derivatives and beta-alanine derivatives as well as the salts of said derivatives.

2. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent and pore-shrinking agent in accordance with claim 1, comprising a glycine derivative as represented by the following general formula (1):

[ formula 1]



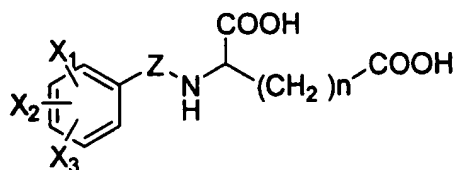
(1)

(In the above formula (1),  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  represent respectively and independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl

group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an aminomethylcarbonyl group, an amidino group, an alkyl-carbonyl group, an alkenyl-carbonyl group, an aryl-carbonyl group, or an aralkyl-carbonyl group;  $R_3$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group, or an aralkyl group. It is to be noted that  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ , and  $R_3$  may not be all hydrogen atoms at the same time.)

3. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent and pore-shrinking agent in accordance with claim 1, comprising an aminodicarbonic acid derivative which is benzoylamminodicarbonic acid derivatives or benzenesulfonylamminodicarbonic acid derivatives as represented by the following general formula (2):

[ formula 2 ]



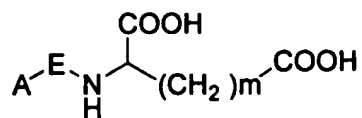
(2)

(In the above formula (2),  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$  are respectively and independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, an alkoxy group having 1 to 4 carbons, a hydroxyl group, an amino group, an alkylamino group having 1 to 4 carbons, a chlorine atom, a bromine atom, a fluorine atom, or a trifluoromethyl group, and  $Z$  represents a carbonyl group or a

sulfonyl group, where n is 1 or 2.)

4. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent and pore-shrinking agent in accordance with claim 1, comprising an acylaminodicarbonic acid derivative which is acylaminodicarbonic acid derivatives as represented by the following general formula (3):

[ formula 3 ]

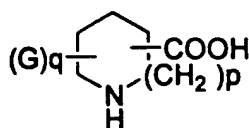


(3)

(In the above formula (3), A represents an alkyl group or an alkenyl group having 1 to 18 carbons, E represents a carbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, where m is 1 or 2.)

5. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent and pore-shrinking agent in accordance with claim 1, comprising a pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid derivative, a piperidinecarboxylic acid derivative, or a hexamethyleneiminecarboxylic acid derivative, which is pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid derivatives, piperidinecarboxylic acid derivatives, or hexamethyleneiminecarboxylic acid derivatives as represented by the following general formula (4):

[ formula 4 ]

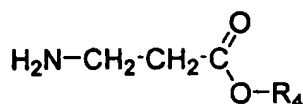


(4)

(In the above formula (4), G represents an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, an alkoxy group having 1 to 4 carbons, a hydroxyl group, an amino group, an alkylamino group having 1 to 4 carbons, a chlorine atom, a bromine atom, a fluorine atom, an iodine atom, or a trifluoromethyl group, and q may be 0, 1, 2, or 3. p may be 0, 1, or 2.)

6. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent and pore-shrinking agent in accordance with claim 1, comprising a beta-alanine derivative which is beta-alanine derivatives as represented by the following general formula (5):

[ formula 5 ]



(5)

(In the above formula (5), R<sub>4</sub> represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group, or an aralkyl group.)

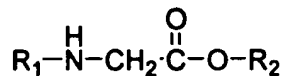
7. (currently amended) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent and pore-shrinking agent comprising an effective ingredient including at least one or two or more compounds selected from a group consisting of glycine derivatives, aminodicarbonic acid derivatives, acylaminodicarbonic acid derivatives, pyrrolidinecarbonic acid derivatives, piperidinecarbonic acid derivatives, hexamethyleneiminecarbonic acid derivatives, and beta-alanine derivatives as well as the salts of said derivatives, in accordance with ~~claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1.

8. (currently amended) A parakeratosis inhibiting skin preparation for external use comprising a parakeratosis inhibitor agent in accordance with ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1.

9. (currently amended) A pore-shrinking skin preparation for external use comprising a pore-shrinking agent in accordance with ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1.

10. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent, pore-shrinking agent, and skin roughness preventing/ameliorating agent comprising at least one or two or more compounds selected from a group consisting of glycine derivatives and the salts thereof as represented by the following formulae (6), (7), or (8), as well as aminosulfuric acid derivatives and the salts thereof as represented by the following general formula (9) or (10):

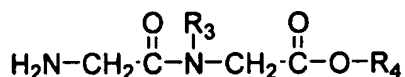
[ formula 6 ]



(6)

(In the above formula (6), R<sub>1</sub> represents an alkyl group having 2 to 18 carbons, a phenyl group, a carbamoyl group or a piridylcarbonyl group, R<sub>2</sub> represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group of straight or branched chain having 1 to 18 carbons, a benzyl group or a phenyl group. The phenyl portion of benzyl group and the phenyl group may also be replaced with one to three groups of an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, an alkoxy group having 1 to 4 carbons, a hydroxyl group, or an amino group.)

[ formula 7 ]

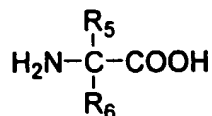


(7)

(In the above general formula (7), R<sub>3</sub> represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, R<sub>4</sub> represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group of straight or branched chain having 1 to 18 carbons, a benzyl group, or a phenyl group. The phenyl portion of benzyl group and the phenyl group may be replaced with one to three groups of an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, an alkoxy group having 1 to 4 carbons, a hydroxyl group or an amino group. However when R<sub>3</sub> is a hydrogen atom, R<sub>4</sub> should not be a hydrogen

atom.)

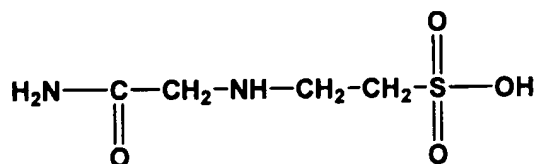
[ formula 8 ]



(8)

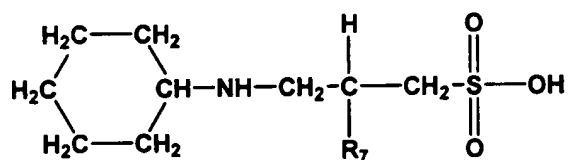
(In the above general formula (8), R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> represent respectively and independently an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, and R<sub>5</sub> together with R<sub>6</sub> may also form a cycloalkyl group having 4 to 7 carbons.)

[ formula 9 ]



(9)

[ formula 10 ]



(10)

(In the above general formula (10), R<sub>7</sub> represents a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl group.)

11. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent, pore-shrinking agent, and skin roughness preventing/ameliorating agent in accordance with claim 10, wherein  $R_2$  in the formula (6) in accordance with claim 10 is a hydrogen atom.

12. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent, pore-shrinking agent, and skin roughness preventing/ameliorating agent in accordance with claim 10, wherein  $R_1$  in the formula (6) in accordance with claim 10 is a carbamoyl group, and  $R_2$  is a hydrogen atom.

13. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent, pore-shrinking agent and skin roughness preventing/ameliorating agent in accordance with claim 10, wherein  $R_1$  in the formula (6) in accordance with claim 10 is a phenyl group, and  $R_2$  is a hydrogen atom.

14. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent, pore-shrinking agent, and skin roughness preventing/ameliorating agent in accordance with claim 10, wherein  $R_1$  in the formula (6) in accordance with claim 10 is an ethyl group, and  $R_2$  is a hydrogen atom.

15. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent, pore-shrinking agent, and skin roughness preventing/ameliorating agent in



accordance with claim 10, wherein  $R_1$  in the formula (6) in accordance with claim 10 is a nicotinoyl group, and  $R_2$  is a hydrogen atom.

16. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent, pore-shrinking agent, and skin roughness preventing/ameliorating agent in accordance with claim 10, wherein  $R_3$  in the formula (7) in accordance with claim 10 is a methyl group.

17. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent, pore-shrinking agent, and skin roughness preventing/ameliorating agent in accordance with claim 10, wherein  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  in the formula (8) in accordance with claim 10 are both a cyclopentamethylene group.

18. (original) A parakeratosis inhibitor agent, pore-shrinking agent, and skin roughness preventing/ameliorating agent comprising an effective ingredient including at least one or two or more compounds selected from a group consisting of glycine derivatives and the salts thereof as represented by the formula (6) in accordance with any one of claims 10 to 15, glycine derivatives and the salts thereof as represented by the formula (7) in accordance with claim 10 or claim 16, glycine derivatives and the salts thereof as represented by the formula (8) in accordance with claim 10 or claim 17, and aminosulfuric acid derivatives and the salts thereof as represented by the formula

(9) or (10) in accordance with claim 10.

19. (original) A skin preparation for external use comprising at least one or two or more compounds selected from a group consisting of glycine derivatives and the salts thereof as represented by the formula (6), (7), or (8) in accordance with claim 10, or aminosulfuric acid derivatives and the salts thereof as represented by the formula (9) or (10) in accordance with claim 10.

20. (original) A skin preparation for external use in accordance with claim 19, wherein  $R_2$  in the formula (6) in accordance with claim 19 is a hydrogen atom.

21. (original) A skin preparation for external use in accordance with claim 19, wherein  $R_1$  in the formula (6) in accordance with claim 19 is a carbamoyl group, and  $R_2$  is a hydrogen atom.

22. (original) A skin preparation for external use in accordance with claim 19, wherein  $R_1$  in the formula (6) in accordance with claim 19 is a phenyl group and  $R_2$  is a hydrogen atom.

23. (original) A skin preparation for external use in accordance with claim 19, wherein  $R_1$  in the formula (6) in accordance with claim 19 is an ethyl group and  $R_2$  is a hydrogen atom.

24. (original) A skin preparation for external use in accordance with claim 19, wherein  $R_1$  in the formula (6) in accordance with claim 19 is a nicotinoyl group and  $R_2$  is a hydrogen atom.

25. (original) A skin preparation for external use in accordance with claim 19, wherein  $R_3$  in the formula (7) in accordance with claim 19 is a methyl group.

26. (original) A skin preparation for external use in accordance with claim 19, wherein  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  in the formula (8) in accordance with claim 19 are both a cyclopentamethylene group.